



*City of Charleston*  
*South Carolina*

JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.  
MAYOR

BARBARA W. VAUGHN  
DIRECTOR  
PUBLIC INFORMATION

*For Immediate Release: May 20, 2009*

## **NEW PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL ACTIVATED**

On Wednesday, May 20, 2009, the City of Charleston fully activated a new pedestrian signal at the intersection of Meeting Street and Johnson Streets. This pedestrian signal was made possible as a result of the hard work from City of Charleston's Department of Traffic and Transportation and support from local residents.

This intersection, surrounded by multiple, heavily populated downtown neighborhoods including the Eastside Neighborhood, the Meeting Street Manor Neighborhood, Cooper River Court, East Central Neighborhood and the proximity of this intersection to Crisis Ministries, a local soup kitchen and shelter, is subject to frequent pedestrian activity. Through the City of Charleston Pedestrian Safety Program, great strides have been made in creating a pedestrian friendly city. The installation of this new pedestrian signal is a component of this program and shows the importance the City places on pedestrian safety.

Alterations were made to the median, which divides Meeting Street at this intersection. As part of the Arthur Ravenel Bridge construction, improvements were made to Meeting Street which included the creation of a median. This median complicated the crossing of Meeting Street for pedestrians and cyclists. The installation of a pedestrian signal and the creation of a break in the median to allow for a crosswalk are positive steps toward improving this crossing and reconnecting neighborhoods on opposite sides of Meeting Street.

Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. said, "Through coordination with other traffic signals on Meeting Street, this new signal will not impose an undue burden on drivers who utilize this important corridor. Rather, in placing a signal at this intersection, the City will effectively ensure safe crossing for pedestrians and create a controlled and predictable environment for drivers. As always, the City of Charleston places the utmost value on the safety and well-being of its citizens and works diligently for their benefit. "

### **FOR MORE INFO:**

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